The
# REPORTER
*For Conscience' Sake*

VOLUME XIII | APRIL, 1956 | NUMBER 4

# Religious Affiliation of 5,312 I-W Men Compiled by NSBRO

**According to official Selective Service figures, there were 6,173 men classified either I-W (COs at work) and I-W Rel. (COs who have already completed their alternate service) on January 1, 1956. Of this number the religious affiliation of 5,312 have been determined.**

The statistics below present the religious affiliation of over 5/6 of the conscientious objectors who have served in the civilian work program since its beginning in 1952.

The current number of men in the civilian work program is approximately 2,500. The percentage of distribution among the various denominations remains practically constant.

| | |
|---|---|
| Albanian Orthodox | 1 |
| Ambassadors for Christ | 1 |
| Apostolic Christian | 3 |
| Assemblies of God | 12 |
| Associated Bible Students | 24 |
| Association of Fundamental Bible Churches | 1 |
| Augustan Lutheran | 1 |
| Baptist | 20 |
| Body of Christ | 1 |
| Brethren Church | 3 |
| Brethren in Christ | 88 |
| Christadelphians | 56 |
| Christian Missionary | 2 |
| Christian Science Church | 3 |
| Christians Gathered Together in the Name of Christ | 1 |
| Christ's Sanctified Holy Church | 2 |
| Church of Christ | 113 |
| Church of God | 48 |
| Church of God and Saints of Christ | 1 |
| Church of God in Christ | 3 |
| Church of the Brethren | 507 |
| Church of the Christians | 2 |
| Church of the First Born | 7 |
| Church of the Four Leaf Clover | 2 |
| Church of the Living God | 1 |
| Church of the Nazarene | 1 |
| Church of Thesia | 1 |
| Congregational | 20 |
| Congregation of Yahweh | 1 |
| Disciples of Christ | 1 |
| Doukhobours | 2 |
| Dutch Reformed | 1 |
| Episcopal | 7 |
| Essenes of Kosmon | 1 |
| Ethical Culture | 1 |
| Evangelical and Reformed | 12 |
| Evangelical Congregational | 1 |
| Evangelical Lutheran | 2 |
| Evangelical United Brethren | 11 |
| Evangelical Mission | 1 |
| Faith Tabernacle | 2 |
| First Century Gospel | 3 |

(*Continued on Page 2*)

## News Briefs

**Future actions of CO's, like those who picketed the White House prior to Christmas in behalf of ojbectors still in prison, may be hampered, along with others, if a bill before the House of Representatives is finally approved by Congress. Bill H.R. 4922 would bar any picketing in the immediate vicinity of the White House.**

Circulation of the pacifist paper, "Catholic Worker" has been rising steadily since the end of World War II. According to the "Worker", this indicates a wider acceptance of the pacifist position.

A few copies of the article, "Role Conflicts of Military Chaplains", reviewed in a recent REPORTER, are available by writing to NSBRO.

### NEWSPAPERS DESCRIBE CO POSITIONS AND LAW

Two daily newspapers recently published prominent articles favorably describing the alternative of conscientious objection to military service.

According to an article in the March 8, 1956, Cleveland (Ohio) Press," a contest for the consciences of young men is going on in this city.

"On the one side are the recruiters of

(*Continued on Page 2*)

# U. of Maryland CO Protests ROTC

A conscientious objector at the University of Maryland was expelled from the University on March 26 for refusing to attend ROTC classes. However, the student was reinstated within 24 hours when he decided to attempt a change of University's compulsory ROTC policy through persuasion of the Board of Regents rather than by court action. The incident was widely reported in Washington and Baltimore papers and on radio and TV.

The student, Barry Carr of Baltimore, was a sophomore at the University and had already completed three semesters of ROTC. At the time Carr entered the University he wrote a letter to the president protesting the policy of compulsory ROTC and requested an exemption for reasons of conscience. However, the president of the university, Dr. Wilson Elkins, refused any consideration. Carr continued in ROTC under protest until several weeks ago he decided he could no longer continue in the military training classes.

Carr's attorney, Fred Weisgal, who is chairman of the Maryland branch of the American Civil Liberties Union, gave as a reason for Carr's decision to return to ROTC classes the opinion that "the overall cause of having compulsory military training dropped could be helped by his returning to classes." Weisgal said that he would use every means short of court action to persuade the Board of Regents of the University to reconsider its policy on ROTC training. "Carr's going back may put the Board of Regents in a better frame of mind when they restudy the policy," Weisgal said.

Carr reports that there has been very

(*Continued on Page 2*)

**Published by the National Service Board for Religious Objectors**

## The Reporter

For Conscience' Sake
Published by the
**National Service Board for Religious Objectors**
Room 403, 401 3rd Street, N. W.
Washington 1, D. C.

Board of Directors
W. Harold Row, Chairman
Wm. T. Snyder, Vice-Chairman
W. Merton Scott, Recording Secretary
Huber F. Klemme, Treasurer
Robert R. Waiskotten
Herman Will

Executive Secretary
C. LeRoy Doty, Jr.

Associate Secretary
Edgar Metzler

Attorney Adviser
Robert B. Myers

Office Secretaries
Thomas Schultz Emogene Schrock
Ann Hunt James Shafer
Carolyn Schultz

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office at Washington, D. C.
Subscription: $1.00 Per Year
Published Monthly


## U. of Maryland CO

(*Continued From Page* 1)

favorable public reaction to his stand as a conscientious objector in opposition to ROTC. Many individuals, including some prominent Maryland citizens, have encouraged him and offered to come to his defense. Although some of the military officials at the University warned Carr that he would probably be ridiculed for the stand he had taken, Carr has found upon his return to campus that the opposite has been true. Many students and some faculty members have expressed admiration for his stand and sympathy for his position.

The Homewood Friends Meeting in Baltimore and other interested groups and individuals are hoping to vigorously push for a change in the University policy of compulsory ROTC.

## Religious Affiliation

(*Continued From Page* 1)

| | |
|---|---|
| First Divine Association | 1 |
| Followers of Jesus Christ | 3 |
| Free Methodist Church | 1 |
| Friends | 205 |
| Gospel Assembly | 1 |
| Gospel Hall | 1 |
| Grace Bible Church | 1 |
| Holiness Church | 5 |
| Holiness Gospel Mission | 1 |
| Hutterian Brethren | 14 |
| Independent Christian | 1 |
| Independent Fundamental | 4 |
| Jehovah's Witness | 173 |
| Lutheran | 1 |
| Megiddo Mission | 2 |
| Mennonite | 3587 |
| Methodist | 62 |
| Mormon | 1 |
| Old German Baptist | 149 |
| Old Order River Brethren | 1 |
| Order of Aharon | 3 |
| Pentecostal | 24 |
| Pilgrim Holiness Church | 2 |
| Plymouth Brethren | 8 |
| Presbyterian | 20 |
| Radio Church of God | 1 |
| Roman Catholic | 2 |
| Russian Molokan | 6 |
| Seventh Day Adventist | 14 |
| Unitarian | 4 |
| United Brethren | 1 |
| United Christian Church | 1 |
| United Lutheran | 1 |
| United Zion | 1 |
| Unity School of Christianity | 1 |
| Nondenominational | 45 |

TOTAL OF ALL KNOWN 1-W AFFILIATIONS—5312
TOTAL 1-W AND 1-W REL. (Jan. 1, 1956)—6173

## Newspapers Describe

(*Continued From Page* 1)

our military service, bolstered by the draft. On the other are pacifists, who are trying to create conscientious objectors.'" The article goes on to describe a pamphlet distributed by the Fellowship of Reconciliation which gives the alternatives to military service and tells how to become a conscientious objector.

The article makes the observation that, "the activities of the Fellowship are entirely legal, insofar as this military reporter can discover. Just as legal as the activities of the recruiters who speak to meetings in high schools instead of sending out literature, as does the Fellowship."

Apparently the pamphlet describing conscientious objection has been mailed to local high school seniors. After noting that, "the pamphlets are sure to arouse the wrath of those who do not fully understand the freedoms guaranteed in the U. S. Constitution." The article goes on to describe the provisions for conscientious objectors under the law and the position taken by those who refuse to register. The article concludes by printing the pamphlet's directions on how to become a conscientious objector.

Another excellent job of informing the public about the provisions for conscientious objectors was done by the Evening News, North Tonawanda, New York. A news staff writer wrote a series of ten articles entitled "Armed Forces and You". An editor's note stated that the exclusive series was being printed "to help young men faced with service decisions." The articles, written in dialogue style, described the programs of all the branches of the armed forces.

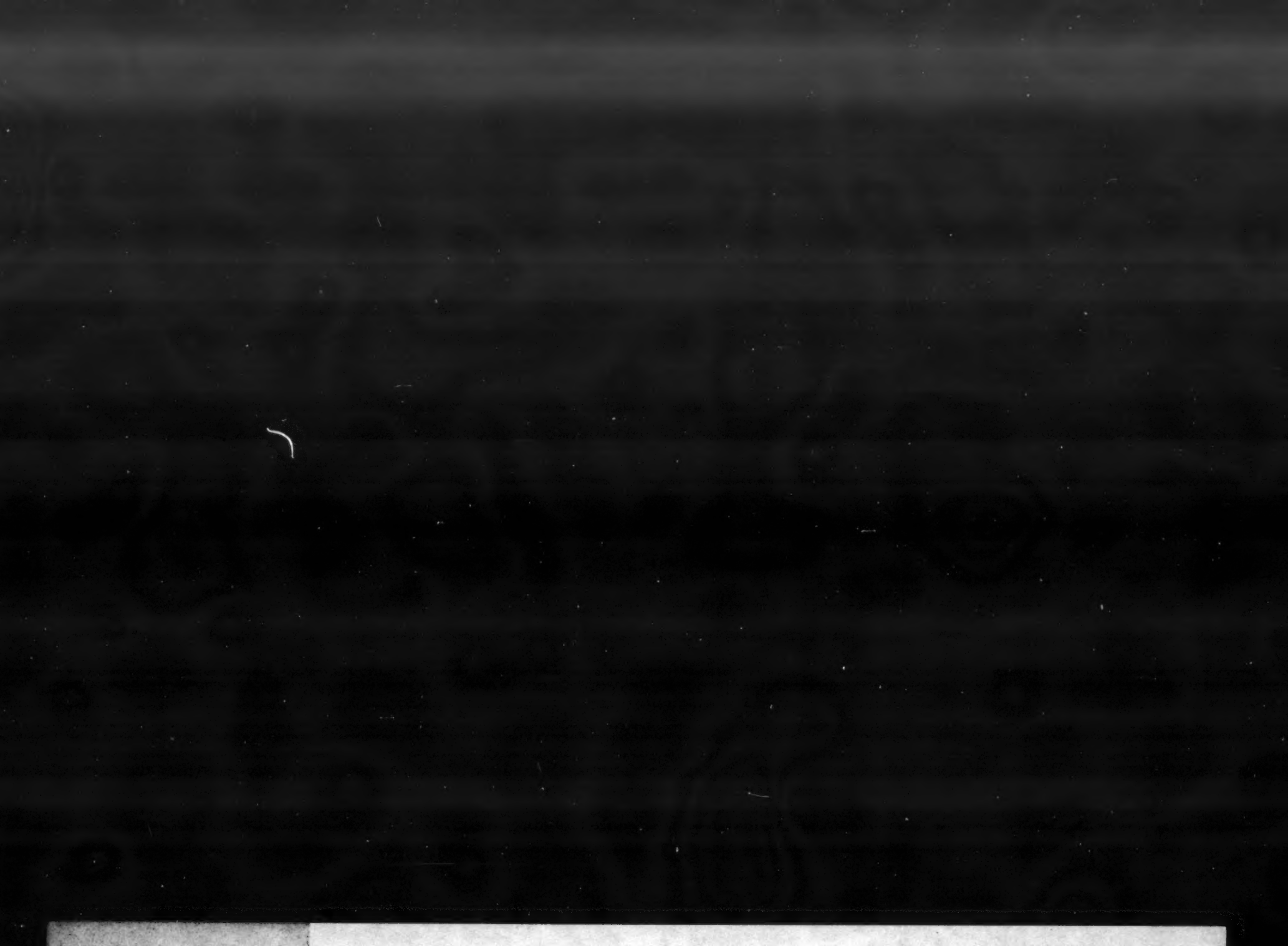
The final article was entitled "Provisions Cited for Men Qualified as War Objectors." The article depicts a typical high school senior, with a minister, discussing the problem of military service. In the course of the conversation the minister describes the positions taken by various conscientious objectors and the way in which their convictions can be registered.

## Russian CO Status

How conscientious objectors are treated in Soviet Russia was described recently by Pastor Hannes de Graaf, professor at the University of Utrecht, and president of the Dutch branch of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation. He based his comments on conversations which he had with Russian Christians during his visit to Russia last summer.

Pastor de Graaf said, "A man can declare that he is a conscientious objector and does not wish to do military service. Very often he hears nothing further about it, his comrades are called up to do their military service and he is 'forgotten.' The authorities do not want to make a martyr of him. Sometimes he is called upon to undertake noncombatant duties in the army. A few weeks after making his statement he may receive a letter informing him that the authorities 'need volunteers for various kinds of civilian duties, such as fighting epidemics in certain parts of the Soviet Union.' The young man is invited to volunteer for this work which will exempt him from military service. In any case, there is no law in favor of conscientious objectors, and no real alternative form of service either. The application of these measures is left to the discretion of the local authorities. A large number of Jehovah's Witnesses are in prison, and so are other conscientious objectors. But the tendency is not to make martyrs of them." No figures are available concerning the number of COs in the U.S.S.R.


**THE REPORTER**
For Conscience' Sake
401 Third St., N. W., Room 403
Washington 1, D. C.

FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED

Entered as Second-Class Matter
at the Post Office at Washington, D. C